Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 17, 2009

The Honorable Michael J. Copps, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Local Number Portability, WC Docket No. 07-244

Dear Chairman Copps,

As you know very well, the Commission has been working for some time on local number portability. We hope we can resolve the delay in wireline and intermodal ports expeditiously and believe that a 48 hour rule should be adopted for all intermodal ports.

Local number portability was designed to facilitate competition. The House Energy & Commerce Committee Conference Report accompanying the *Telecommunication Act of 1996* states that, "Congress believes that the implementation of final number portability is an important element in the introduction of local competition." The Report also concluded that "a local exchange carrier must take any action under its control to provide interim or final number portability as soon as it is technically feasible."

There have been significant advances in technology, and increases in the number and types of providers a customer can select to meet his or her communications needs. Moreover, with the advent of wireless number portability, customers have come to expect that the number porting process will occur easily and quickly. Indeed, wireless carriers port numbers among themselves in about 2 ½ hours (often much less), while the wireline porting interval is generally 4 business days.

It is unacceptable that with all the advances in technology, the wireline porting interval has remained at 4 business days for more than 10 years and wireline operators have failed to present any reasonable technical basis for such delay. We believe these long delays deter competition that the 1996 Act aimed to promote.

Accordingly, we urge the Commission to issue an order that reduces wireline and intermodal porting interval to no more than 48 hours.

Sincerely,

Anna G. Eshoo Member of Congress Mary Bond Mack Member of Congress The Honorable Michael J. Copps March 17, 2009 Page 2

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CC:

Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner Honorable Robert M. McDowell, Commissioner

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ANNA G. ESHOO

14TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA



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